THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART
CLEVELAND 6. OHIO
TELEPHONE: GARFIELD 1-7340

FOR RELEASE

Thursday, January 4, 1951

William M. Milliken, Director of The Cleveland Museum of Art announces today purchase through gift of Hanna Fund of The Portrait of a Nobleman by Lorenzo Lotto, Venetian, c. 1480-1556, one of the greatest painters, especially of portraits of the Italian Renaissance.

Well-named is this work, introducing this handsome, intelligent Venetian of 500 years ago. He stands, dressed in rich dark velvets with gold chain about his neck and sword at his side. His heavy-lidded eyes gaze off into the distance and his slender, elegant hand is raised in an imperative gesture. He stands before a marble balastrade, a stormy sky rising above a bright horizon. His other hand rests upon a crumbled sheet of paper on a table, beside some broken jasmine blossoms, a fragrant little still-life that perhaps once carried its own story.

Lotto was born in Venice. His early painting was influenced by Giovanni Bellini. He painted in many parts of Italy, returning to his native City at the age of sixty and it is from his years thereafter that the Nobleman comes. It is signed and dated 1545.